

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9532

INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

AMEBASSY PRETORIA

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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1565

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG OAU

SUBJECT: OAU MINISTERIAL--JUNE 24

REF: LIBREVILLE 1548 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: MINISTERS BEGAN WORKING SESSIONS JUNE 24 WITH ADOPTION OF 48 POINT AGEND. NEITHER OAU REPORT ON BENIN NOR SPANISH SAHARA QUESTION TO BE DISCUSSED AT MINISTERIAL. MOROCCAN DELEGATON TOOK ITS SEAT AFTER APPEAL BY BONGOAND OAU, BUT BENIN STILL ABSENT. OAU SEC GEN ETEKI AND ECA SEC GEN ADEDJI ADDRESSED CONFERENCE. ZAIRE RAISED SHABA INVASION AND ANGOLANS REBUTTED. MOZAMBIQUE RAISED RHODESIAN INVASION AS PRIORITY ITEM. END SUMMARY.

1. OUA MINISTERS BEGAN WORKING SESSIONS JUNE 24. PLENARY COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY GAON, POLITICAL COMMITTEE BY CONFIDENTIAL

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SENEGAL, AND ECONOMIC COMMITTEE BY MOZAMBIQUE. DRAFTING COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF EHYTP(RAPPORTEUR) LIBYA TUNISIA NIGERIA MUARITIAN,UPPER VOLTA, SIERRA LEONE,SAO TOME, ZAIRE, RWANDA, TANZANIA, COMOROS, BOTSWANA AND MAURITIUS. ORIGINAL 40 POINT AGENDA EXPANDED TO 48 POINTS WITH FLLOWING NOTABLE ADDITIONS: (A) LIBYAN PROPOSAL CONDEMNING WEST GERN AN ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA (B) MOZAMBIQUE

PROPOSAL COALLING FOR POLITICAL AND DIPLMATIC ACTION AGAINST RHODESIA, AND (C) ALGERIAN MODIFIED SENEGALESE PROPOSAL ON ITERFERENCE ININTERNAL AFFAIRS OF MEMBER STATES.

2. FIRST MAJOR CONFRONTATION OCCURED AS ZAIRE VICE PRESIDENT TOOK FLOOR AT CLOSE OF ADMINISTRATVIE REPORT AND RAISE SHABA INVASION. HE STATED VIOLATION OF OAU CHARTER BY MEMBERS STATES AND OUTSIDERS BECOMING BOTH MORE FREQUENT ANDMORE SERIOUS. HE RAISED ROLE IN SHABA OF UNNAMEN SUPERPOWER, NEIGHBORING AFRICAN STATE AND "CIGAR SMOKEING/SUGAR CANE GRWOING CARRIBBEAN STATE." HE CONGRATULED MOROCCO AND UNNAMED STATES WHICH HELPED REPEL AGGRESSION, INDICATED ZAIRE STILL OPEN TO NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORT, AND STATE ZAIRE WILL PUBLISH REPORT ON INVASION WIHC WILL BE MADE AVAIALBE TO OAU.

3. ANGOLAN FOREING MINISTER REPLIED ANGOLA NOT INVOLDED IN SHABA INVASION , WHICH WAS ZAIRES INTERNAL MATTER AND THAT HE SURPRISED VOICES RAISED AGAINST CUBANS WHO FIGHTING SOUTH ARIVCA WHILE NONE RAISED AGAIST US AND FRANCE WHICH AIDED ZAIRES AGGRESSION AGAINST ANGOLA. RECENT EVENTS HAD TO BE VIEWD INCONTEX OF PAST ZAIRE ANGOLA RELATIONS. SINCE 1963 ZAIRE HAD LAUNCHED CONTINIOUS WAR AGAINST MPLA AND ANGOLA. ANGOLA ACCEPTED NIGERIAN MEDIATION, WAS PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN PROPOSED ANGOLA ZAIRE MIXED COMMISSION, BUT REFUSED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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DISCUSS ZAIRES INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

4. DURING AFERNOON SESSION, GUINEAN FOREIGN MINISTER YIELDED FLOOR TO MOZAMBIQUE FOREIGN MINISTER WHO ASKED FOR PRIORITY DISCUSSION OF RHODESIAN INVASION SINCE UN SECURITY COUNCIL EXPECTED TO DISCUSS MATTER ON JUNE 27-28. HE ASKED OAU TO PASS RESOLUTION CALLING FOR : (A) AFRICAN AND NON ALIGNED SUPPORT FOR MOZAMBIQUE (B) SECURITY COUNCIL STEPS TO FURTHER ISOLATE SMITH REGIME AND (C) SECURITY COUNCIL ADOPTIONOF MAPUTO DECLARAION. MINISTER NOTED RECENT RHODESIAN USE OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS, INCLUDING MIRAGES, AND STATED OZANBIQUE WOULD LOOK FOR ALL NECESSARY HELP IN DEFENDING ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. DEBATE ON MOZAMBIQUE PROPOSAL WILL CONTINUE JUNE 25.

5. IN OTHER AREAS OF INTERST, OAU ASST SEC GEN ONU STATED MINISTERS WOULD DISCUSS NEITHER BENIN REPORT NOR SPANISH SAHARA QUESTION SINCE BOTH HAD BEEN COVERED BY MINISTERS AT PRECIOS MEETINGS.

6. OAU SEC GEN ETEKIS REPORT TO CONFERENCE COVERED

FULL RANGE AFRICAN PROBLEMS. HE WELCOMED DJIBOUTI IN
ADVANCE TO OAU FAMILY STATED FRENCH GOVERNMENT IMPOTENT
TO ADDRESS MAYOTTE QUESTION POSITIVELY IN VIEW
CONSERVATIVE MAJORITY IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, AND
REFERRED TO WESTERN INITIATIVES ON RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA
AS AMBIGUOUS AND TARDY. IT WAS UP TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
TO EVALUATE, ACCEPT OR REJECT THESE INITIATIVES.

7. ECA SEC GEN ADEDJIS SPEECH POLITICALLY SCORED
AFRICAN STATES FOR LACK OF CONCRETE PROGRESS TOWARDS
REGIONAL AND OTHER ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HE STATED
BLAME COULD NO LONGER BE PLACED ON FOREIGN POWERS OR
TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (TNCs) PARTICULARLY SINCE:
(A) AFRICANS HAD MEANS TO CONTROL TNCs AND (B) IT
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WAS IN INTEREST OF TNCs TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC COOPERATION
IN AFRICA.

8. COMMENT: EXPECTED ATTACKS ON US AND WEST HAVE BEEN
RELATIVELY MODERATE, WITH ZAIRE'S ATTACK ON SOVIETS AND
CUBANS PROVIDING INTERESTING BALANCE. AGGRESSION BY
MEMBER STATES AGAINST OTHER MEMBER STATES MATTER OF
GROWING IMPORTANCE FOR OAU, BUT RECENT RHODESIAN ATTACKS
HAVE CREATED A NATAL BE RALLYING POINT FOR THOSE WHO
WOULD PREFER TO DISCUSS IMPERIALIST AGGRESSION. STEIGMAN

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